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HARTISMERE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for the
YEAR 1966

OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

K. M. HARDING, M. D., D.P.H., A.K.C.

Senior Public Health Inspector & Housing Officer

H. SPINDLER, Cert. R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B.

Additional Public Health Inspector

D. W. J. BARKER, Cert.R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B.

COMMITTEES CONCERNED WITH MATTERS OF PUBLIC HEALTH.

Public Health & Sewerage Committee -----	Sewerage, Refuse Collection, Rodent Control and all other Public Health Functions.
Housing Committee-----	Provision and Improvement of housing accommodation by the Council.

To the Chairman and Members of the Hartismere Rural District Council
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1966.

It will be seen from the figures contained therein that the health of the Rural District has been good during the past year, and no changes have occurred in the statistics that could give cause for alarm.

I should like, particularly, to draw the Council's attention to the vital need for a high level of immunisation amongst young children against, Diphtheria, Smallpox, Poliomyelitis and Tetanus. Diphtheria is an almost unknown disease in this country, but this is not the case on the Continent. In 1965 there were 264 cases of Diphtheria notified in France, 324 in Germany and 2630 in Italy. Now that travel abroad is so popular there is an increased danger that Diphtheria may be brought back and spread to children who have not been protected by immunisation. The programme for giving immunisation is quite simple. Three doses, usually of combined antigen to protect against, Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Whooping Cough are given during the first year of life. One year later a Booster injection is given and a further Booster is given when the child starts school at the age of five. Protection against Poliomyelitis is almost always given by mouth nowadays. Here again three doses are given, followed by Boosters as for the combined antigen. Vaccination against Smallpox is also advisable particularly in these days of air transport when it is possible for travellers to arrive in Great Britain from a country where Smallpox is prevalent in a few hours. When travel by sea was the only means available any person who was incubating Smallpox when he embarked would show marked signs of the disease by the time the ship reached this country, and he could then be isolated. Now times have changed and a traveller who has contracted Smallpox before setting out may still be in the incubating and non-characteristic stage when he arrives here. Thus he will go on his way and may infect numerous people, including young children, before the well known signs of Smallpox appear.

This Council has during the past year shown a lead in a plan to encourage Farm workers and others whose occupation involves them in coming in contact with the soil to undergo immunisation against Tetanus. In a district such as this which has been farmed for a large number of years the soil is known to be heavily contaminated with Tetanus spores. These are the germs which cause Tetanus or Lockjaw as it is commonly called. Over the years Tetanus has taken a small, but steady toll of lives of landworkers. It is just as easy to get a wound, which may be very trivial, contaminated with soil when working in the garden at weekends as it is when working on the land. It is therefore advisable for all adults to be immunised against Tetanus. The course consists of two injections with an interval of six weeks between, followed by a Booster in a years time. These injections can be obtained from a person's family doctor.

Poliomyelitis is another disease which has almost been wiped out, but unless all parents get their children vaccinated against it it will come back, and cause pain, suffering and in many cases, permanent crippling.

I should like, in conclusion, to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their encouragement during the year under review. I am also grateful to the Officers and Staff of the Council and especially the Public Health department, for their co-operation and enthusiasm.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

K. M. Harding.

Medical Officer of Health.

September, 1967.

1. GENERAL STATISTICS

Area	96,486 acres
Population	16,100
No. of inhabited houses	5,943
Rateable Value	£319,405. -o. -d.
Product of a Penny Rate	£1,282. -o. -d.

2. VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	88	98	186
Illegitimate	8	4	12
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	96	102	198
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Birth Rate

Crude birth rate per 1,000 population	12.30
Comparability factor	1.14
Standardised birth rate	14.02
Birth rate England and Wales	17.7

Still Births

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	3	2	5
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	3	2	5
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Still Birth Rate

Still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births	24.63
Still birth rate England and Wales	15.4

Infant Mortality (Deaths of children under 1 year)

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	2	3	5
Illegitimate	1	-	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	3	3	6
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Infant Mortality Rate

Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	30.30
Infant Mortality rate England and Wales	19.00

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	1	2	3
Illegitimate	1	-	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	2	2	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Deaths

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
All causes	102	90	192
Crude death rate per 1,000 population		11.93	
Comparability factor		0.86	
Standardised death rate		10.26	
Death rate England and Wales		11.7	

Causes of death

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>1966</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>1965</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease	-	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	1	4	4
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	8	-	8	7
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	2	2	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	3	3	3
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	13	7	20	19
Leukaemia, alaukaemia	-	-	-	1
Diabetes	-	1	1	1
Vascular Lesions of nervous system	13	15	28	36
Coronary disease, angina	18	21	39	38
Hypertension with heart disease	1	-	1	-
Other heart disease	11	9	20	27
Other circulatory diseases	3	3	6	13
Influenza	1	-	1	1
Pneumonia	12	12	24	13
Bronchitis	6	-	6	4
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-	-	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	1	3	1
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	1	-	1	3
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	-	1	1
Congenital malformations	1	3	4	2
Other defined and ill defined diseases	4	9	13	11
Motor Vehicle accidents	2	-	2	5
All other accidents	1	3	4	7
Suicide	1	-	1	-
	<hr/> 102	<hr/> 90	<hr/> 192	<hr/> 203

Cancer

There were 37 deaths from Cancer in 1966, the same number as for the year 1965.

Vital Statistics - Summary for past 5 years

	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>England & Wales, 1966</u>
Population	16,240	16,210	16,100	16,120	16,100	
Live Births	252	254	254	202	198	
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population	14.8	15.68	15.67	12.53	12.30	
Standardised Birth Rate	17.2	17.87	17.86	14.28	14.02	17.7
Deaths of infants under 1 year	4	2	4	3	6	
Infant Mortality Rate	8.3	7.88	15.75	14.85	30.30	19.0
Deaths	206	179	170	203	192	
Crude Death Rate	12.6	11.04	10.49	12.59	11.93	
Standardised Death Rate	11.0	9.60	9.12	10.57	10.26	11.7

Monthly Notification of Notifiable Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis)

	<u>Jan.</u>	<u>Feb.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Apr.</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>Aug.</u>	<u>Sept.</u>	<u>Oct.</u>	<u>Nov.</u>	<u>Dec.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Scarlet Fever	-	-	3	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	6
Whooping Cough	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	5
Measles	5	29	16	4	2	1	15	62	3	-	5	19	161
Dysentery	-	-	1	7	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
Pneumonia	2	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Salmonella	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Infective Hepatitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	8	29	24	15	3	1	17	62	3	-	9	19	190

Notifiable Diseases - Age Distribution

	0-	1-	3-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-	65-	<u>Total</u>
Scarlet Fever	-	1	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	6
Whooping Cough	-	-	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	5
Measles	7	24	41	74	12	2	1	-	-	161
Dysentery	-	-	2	4	-	-	3	-	-	9
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	3	6
Salmonella	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Infective Hepatitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	7	25	46	84	14	2	8	-	4	190

Notifiable Diseases - Summary for past 5 years

	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
Scarlet Fever	1	8	7	25	6
Whooping Cough	6	5	8	14	5
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	143	281	152	32	161
Pneumonia	3	18	4	4	6
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis	-	-	1	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	1	2	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	1
Erysipelas	1	2	1	4	2
Infective Hepatitis	-	-	2	1	-
Salmonella Typhi-Murium	1	-	-	-	-

4. VACCINATIONS AND IMMUNISATIONS (Figures kindly supplied by the
County Medical Officer)

(a) Vaccinations against Smallpox

Primary	160
Re-vaccination	13

(b) Immunisations

	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Booster</u>
Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis/Polio	-	-
Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis	175	122
Diphtheria/Pertussis	-	-
Diphtheria/Tetanus	-	51
Diphtheria	-	-
Pertussis	-	-
Tetanus	17	14
Salk Poliomyelitis	-	-
Sabin Poliomyelitis	148	101

5. TUBERCULOSIS

	<u>Males</u>		<u>Females</u>		<u>Total</u>
	<u>Pulm.</u>	<u>Non-Pulm.</u>	<u>Pulm.</u>	<u>Non-Pulm.</u>	
Cases on register at 1.1.66.	22	7	23	7	59
Primary Notifications	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers in	1	-	-	-	1
	23	7	23	7	60
<u>Cases taken off</u> <u>Register in 1966</u>					
Deaths	-	-	-	-	-
Recovered	5	-	2	1	8
Removed from District	-	-	1	-	1
Re-diagnosed non T.B.	-	-	-	-	-
Total removed	5	-	3	1	9
No. of cases remaining on register at 31.12.66.	18	7	20	6	51

Tuberculosis - Statistical Summary for Past 5 years

	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>
Number added to Register by Primary Notifications -					
(a) Pulmonary	2	3	5	2	-
(b) Non-Pulmonary	1	1	-	-	-
Total number added to Register	3	4	5	2	1

6. WATER SUPPLY

Connections

159 connections to properties were made during the year. Of these 14 were metered supplies and 145 were domestic supplies.

Water Examination

Well Water - 11 samples were taken during the year, 10 of which were found to be satisfactory.

Mains Supply - Routine samples were taken in different parishes and also at source (Redgrave Headworks). All reports showed the findings to be excellent.

Well Water Cyanosis

During the year the County Medical Officer notified cases of women due to be confined:-

(a) Not receiving mains water	5
(b) Type of water supply not known	62
(c) Total	67

These were investigated and as a result 1 sample was taken and submitted for a report on Nitrate Content and found to be satisfactory.

7. SEWERAGE

The following properties were connected to the public sewer during the year:-

Bacton	-	2
Botesdale	-	1
Fressingfield	-	1
Gislingham	-	32
Hoxne	-	5
Laxfield	-	2
Mendlesham	-	1
Palgrave	-	8
Stradbroke	-	3
Weybread	-	3
Yaxley	-	1

8. MILK DEALERS LICENCES

There are now eight licences issued by the County Council under the Milk (Special Designation) regulations, 1963, enabling persons to sell prepacked milk from an approved source in this district.

9. MILK SAMPLING

Statutory - 21 samples taken.

Chemical Analysis - 3 samples taken.

Biologicals - 37 samples taken.

Antibiotics - 57 samples taken.

In all cases the results were satisfactory.

10. FOOD INSPECTION

167 Cattle, 16 calves & 8 pigs, were killed in the one licensed slaughter house during the year and 100% inspection of carcasses were carried out. No carcasses were condemned which again shows the first class quality of meat handled.

The following foodstuffs were condemned during the year:-

24 lbs. Steers liver	- Abscess.
21 lbs. Steers liver	- Cirrhosis.
18 lbs. Tinned Steak	- Decomposition

11. NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 - Section 47

No action was taken under this act.

12. FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948

No. of factories	- 53
No. of inspections made	- 57
No. of defects found	- 3
No. of defects remedied	- 3.